




Testimony in Support of SB 17

Proponent Testimony by: Tom Isaacs, 
Superintendent, Warren County ESC

Date: February 27, 2023

I am writing to offer my strong support for Senate Bill 17. It is imperative that every Ohio student understands the importance of American free market capitalism and this bill requires these important concepts to be part of Ohio's financial literacy standards.

One of the most striking changes in Ohio schools has been the explicit focus on workforce development. Ohio's educators have embraced their role in connecting students to careers and to employers. Free market capitalism provides needed motivation to students as they consider careers by offering them important incentives for work.

Ohio is exploding with growth in health care, advanced manufacturing, and many other fields. Workers greatly benefit in our economic system through their creativity, work ethic, and investments. This is an exciting time for young people and there are many dynamic opportunities for them to explore. Socialism does not offer such motivation because workers are not rewarded for their efforts. Students who understand free market capitalism will be motivated and excited to contribute to Ohio's future jobs because our economic system rewards their efforts and their risks.

I fully believe that students' understanding of free market capitalism is an important part of building Ohio's future workforce.